**Marching Band Uniforms**

Uniforms - Assigning and Returning

This uniform is expected to last ten years so, treat it with care. For the next several years, many other students will be using the same uniform.

You have been assigned a garment bag for storing your uniform. Attached to the bag will be a tag with your name, jacket number, pants number and shako number.

At end of the season, the uniform and accessory items assigned to you will be inspected. If any items are found missing or damaged you will be charged for the repair or replacement cost.

**Uniforms - Proper Fit**

Pants - Put your marching shoes on and stand in playing position. The bottom of the pant leg should be **2 inches** above the floor. Have your parents “hem” the pants to proper length using the snaps. The pants are not to be sewn or altered in any way.

Jacket - Zip and snap your jacket closed. While standing in playing position, the end of the sleeves should touch the wrist bone. You may tuck the sleeves in if they are too long.

**Do not wait to the last minute to check the fit and “hem” your pants. This NEEDS to be done BEFORE the end of BAND CAMP!!!!**

**Uniforms - Care and Storage**

Your uniform should be stored in the assigned garment bag at all times when it is not being worn. The only items that go in the uniform bag are the pants, jacket, and gloves. Please hang the pants and jacket neatly on the hanger, not balled up at the bottom of the bag! **Do not store shoes in the garment bag.** **After Competitions hang the uniform jacket inside out. This allows sweaty uniforms to air out. If you leave them in the bag and have been sweaty the uniform WILL MOLD and this CANNOT be clean- the uniform will NEED TO BE REPLACED at the full replacement cost to YOU!**

**Wear your uniform properly:**

Wear a pair of thin, athletic shorts under your uniform;

Wear a t-shirt under your uniform. No tank tops or sleeveless shirts are allowed;

Plain black crew length socks with no color on the heel (Absolutely no short socks);

Your pants suspenders should be on your shoulders;

Your jacket should be on, zipped and snapped;

Wear your shako facing forward.

Plumes will always be placed in shakos by authorized personnel.

**THERE IS NO EATING AND YOU MAY DRINK ONLY WATER WHEN IN UNIFORM**

**Hanging Up the Uniform**

Fold the pants along the crease as you would hang good dress pants. Hang them on the round bar attached to the hanger the pants for transport. The jacket goes on the hanger with the front of the jacket on the concave part of the hanger.

**Garment Bags**

The bags are not indestructible and must be handled with care. Garment bags are for uniforms ONLY; no shoes or other heavy items are allowed in the bags. While the uniform is being worn, garment bags should be HUNG UP on the racks and not left on the floor or draped over chairs and tables.

**Uniforms - Cleaning**

The Uniform parents will take them to the cleaner at the end of the season to be dry cleaned. Uniforms can only be cleaned at the authorized cleaner. DO NOT CLEAN AT HOME. If the uniform is soiled contact the Uniform Coordinator.

If you notice that any part of your uniform needs repairs or become dirty, you should go to a Uniform Coordinator for help. Try to take care of any problems well in advance of a performance.

**Shakos and Shako Cases**

**Do NOT carry your shako like a BASKET**

Each marching band member is fitted with a shako that they will use for the season. You are also given a black plastic case for storing your shako. The case will have a label with your name and shako number.

It is each student's responsibility to take care of the shako; keep it clean and keep it stored properly in the shako case. After each performance return your shako to the closet.

If your shako becomes soiled or damaged, please ask one of the Uniform Coordinators for help and instructions.

**Shoes - Care and Cleaning**

Students are responsible for purchasing their marching shoes. With the proper care, your shoes should last several years (unless your feet grow). Clean your shoes and shoelaces before every performance. They will be inspected by your captain.

Marching Band shoes are to be worn ONLY for performances or designated rehearsals. Please bring other shoes to wear during stretching and to walk around. It is easier to clean them right after a performance than to wait until just before the next performance.

All shoes look alike: you are required to label the inside of EACH shoe with your name!

**Gloves**

Wear clean gloves to every performance. You can clean them in the washing machine with a load of clothing, lay them flat to dry. DO NOT DRY THEM IN THE DRYER.